

Message Text

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ORIGIN GAO-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-07 EPA-04 ABF-01 /027 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS STATE 126342

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, ECEM, GW

SUBJECT: INFORMATION ON PESTICIDE USE AND RESIDUES

1. THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) ROUTINELY ANALYZES US DOMESTIC AND IMPORTED FOOD COMMODITIES IN ORDER TO ESTIMATE DIETARY INTAKE OF PESTICIDE RESIDUES AND TO PROTECT US RESIDENTS FROM POTENTIALLY EXCESSIVE PESTICIDAL INTAKE. CONSIDERING THE VAST ARRAY OF PESTICIDES AVAILABLE FOR USE ON ANY ONE INDIVIDUAL COMMODITY AND THE PRACTICAL IMPOSSIBILITY OF ANALYZING EVERY COMMODITY FOR EVERY POTENTIAL PESTICIDE RESIDUE, KNOWLEDGE OF CONTINUALLY CHANGING WORLDWIDE PESTICIDE USE PATTERNS PROVIDES A MEANS OF DIRECTING THE FDA TESTING PROGRAMS.

2. THE US GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE (GAO) IS INVESTIGATING EFFORTS MADE TO IDENTIFY PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN/ON CONSUMED BY US RESIDENTS. THEY ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY OF FDA'S TESTING PROGRAM. IN ORDER TO PERFORM THIS INVESTIGATION, UNCLASSIFIED

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GAO REPRESENTATIVES WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS BY JUNE 30, 1977:

3. HAS THE GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM THROUGH WHICH FARMERS ARE INSTRUCTED AS TO THE PROPER USE AND APPLICATION OF PESTICIDES?

4. ARE THERE MECHANISMS FOR TRACKING ACTUAL (RATHER

THAN RECOMMENDED) PESTICIDE USE PATTERNS?

5. IF SO, WHAT PESTICIDES ARE CURRENTLY APPLIED BY FARMERS TO GRAPE PRODUCTS OR WINE?

6. ARE STATISTICS AVAILABLE ON THE NUMBERS AND TYPES OF ACCIDENTS AND/OR DEATHS THAT HAVE OCCURRED FROM THE USE OF TOXIC PESTICIDES?

7. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY CONTACTING APPROPRIATE AGENCIES TO DETERMINE WHICH PESTICIDES HAVE BEEN BANNED FOR USE IN GERMANY. ARE THESE PESTICIDES BEING PRODUCED FOR EXPORT? IF SO, TO WHAT COUNTRIES? US?

8. WHAT IS THE STATUS IN GERMANY OF FOLLOWING PESTICIDES: ALDRIN, DIELDRIN, DDT, CHLORDANE, HEPTACHLOR, ENDRIN, KEPONE, STRYCHNIN, AND MERCURY-CONTAINING PESTICIDES?

9. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY OBTAINING AND FORWARDING COPIES OF LAWS RELATING TO PESTICIDES (E.G., PRODUCTION, CONTROL, IMPORT, EXPORT, ETC.).

10. ARE THERE PESTICIDES THAT HAVE NOT BEEN REGISTERED FOR USE IN SUBJECT COUNTRY?

11. REPLIES SHOULD BE SLUGGED EPA/OIA. HABIB

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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